

CONFIDENTIAL
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

10-74-0891

Executive Registry

74-7649/A

15 NOV 1974

Mr. Vernon D. Acree
Commissioner of Customs
U. S. Customs Service
Washington, D. C. 20229

Dear Mr. Acree:

In response to your letter of 27 September requesting CIA assistance in identifying all aircraft and small vessels foreign to the port of call in the Caribbean area, during the Customs interdiction effort, we will be glad to help insofar as our resources permit.

This is a topic well outside our normal targeting, and time does not permit much in the way of developing new sources. Moreover, I am told that much information of this type is openly available through shipping agencies, port and airport schedules, and perhaps even routine press reporting. We are therefore recommending that the Department of State alert all diplomatic missions in the area concerned (I have furnished a copy of your letter) asking that all elements of the Country Teams and Consular posts support your project to the best of their ability. The Attache Service informs us it will back this with internal guidance to its field representatives. CIA will do likewise.

You are conducting an obviously meaningful and important campaign, and I wish you every success.

Sincerely,

/s/ W. E. Colby

W. E. Colby

K1 . CPAD/IC: jh (8 Nov 74)

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